

GLOBAL EYE INTELLIGENCE

CHINA-RUSSIA JOINT AIR PATROL NEAR ALASKA



MILITARY INTELLIGENCE REPORT



SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Date: 25th July 2024

Subject: Joint Air Patrol near Alaska & Russia-China Military-Technical Cooperation



S U M M A R Y

On July 25, 2024, China and Russia conducted a significant joint air patrol involving their respective air forces. This operation marked the first instance of Chinese bombers entering the Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) off the coast of Alaska. The patrol, which lasted over five hours, featured strategic bombers from both nations and was monitored by U.S. and Canadian fighter jets.



DETAILS OF THE AIR PATROL-

Participating Aircraft:

- Russian Aerospace Forces:
 - Tu-95MS: Long-range strategic bombers.
 - Su-30SM: Multirole fighter jets.
 - Su-35S: Advanced multi-role fighter jets.
- Chinese People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF):
 - H-6K: Strategic bombers.
 - J-20 and J-16: Multirole fighters.

Flight Path and Operations:

- Route: Chukchi Sea, Bering Sea waters, northern Pacific Ocean.
- Coordination: Enhanced joint operational capabilities.

Interactions with U.S. and Canadian Forces:

- Intercepts: U.S. F-16, F-35, and Canadian
 CF-18 fighter jets intercepted the bombers.
- Airspace Management: Bombers remained in ADIZ, not breaching sovereign airspace.



KEY MILITARY DETAILS-

JOINT MILITARY EXERCISES:

- Scheduled Drills: The statement reaffirms the continuation of annual joint military exercises, including naval drills, strategic air patrols, and anti-terrorism operations.
- Focus Areas: Upcoming exercises will focus on improving interoperability, enhancing joint operational strategies, and demonstrating strategic capabilities in key regions such as the Arctic and Pacific.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP:

- Coordination: Both nations will enhance coordination in strategic military planning and operations, aiming to improve their response to regional and global security challenges.
- Military Cooperation Plan: The statement outlines a detailed military cooperation plan for the remainder of 2024, including specific objectives and timelines for joint activities.





KNEVICHI AIRBASE 43°23′57″N 132°09′05″E

VORKUTA AIRBASE 67°27′56″N 064°18′28″E





DOLINSK-SOKOL AIRBASE 47°15′42″N 142°46′6″E

HORNETS SUBMARINE BASE 52°54'58"N 158°29'13"E







KOMSOMOLSK AMUR 50°36'05"N 137°05'02"E

SEVEROMORSK NAVAL BASE 69°04'51"N 33°24'56"E







ARKTICHESKIY TRILISTNIK 80°47'53"N 47°33'46"E

PROVIDENIYA AIRBASE 64°22'27"N 173°15'08"W









ALYKEL AIRBASE 69°18′36″N 087°20′0″E

YELIZOVO AIRBASE 53°10'3.72"N 158°27'12.96"E







Russian Armed Forces

American Armed Forces





TECHNOLOGICAL COLLABORATION:

- Defense Technology Sharing: China and Russia will collaborate on the development and deployment of advanced military technologies, including missile systems, air defense systems, and naval assets.
- Joint Research Projects: Both countries will initiate joint research projects in defense technology, focusing on areas such as electronic warfare, space-based defense systems, and cyber capabilities.

NAVAL AND AIR FORCE COOPERATION:

- Joint Patrols: The statement highlights recent joint air patrols over strategic regions, including the Arctic and Pacific. These patrols are aimed at demonstrating their strategic presence and improving operational coordination.
- Naval Exercises: Planned naval exercises will involve combined fleets conducting maritime security operations, anti-submarine warfare drills, and coordinated responses to potential threats.



REGIONAL SECURITY AND INFLUENCE:

- Strategic Presence: China and Russia will continue to assert their strategic presence in key regions, including the Arctic, Bering Sea, and near the U.S. borders. This presence is intended to project power and influence regional security dynamics.
- Response to External Threats: The statement emphasizes a joint approach to addressing external threats and challenges to their strategic interests, including responses to perceived provocations from other major powers.

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND NORMS:

 Adherence to International Standards: Both countries reaffirm their commitment to conducting military activities in accordance with international law and norms. The joint patrols and exercises are intended to adhere to established protocols and avoid violations of sovereign airspace or territorial waters.



HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF CHINA-RUSSIA Military Exercises

EARLY COOPERATION:

- Post-Cold War Era: The China-Russia military relationship initially focused on arms sales and limited joint exercises.
- 2000s: Increased frequency of joint naval exercises and strategic dialogues as relations warmed.

FORMALIZED PARTNERSHIPS:

- 2012: The China-Russia Joint Air Patrols were formally established, with the first patrol conducted in 2013. These exercises were designed to improve strategic coordination and display a unified stance on global security issues.
- 2019: The first strategic air patrol took place, marking a significant milestone in military cooperation.



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS:

 2020s: A series of joint exercises in the Arctic and Pacific regions, including naval drills, aerial patrols, and anti-terrorism operations. These activities have focused on enhancing interoperability and showcasing joint capabilities.





CHINA-RUSSIA MILITARY-TECHNICAL COOPERATION

TECHNOLOGICAL INTEGRATION:

- Arms Sales: China has acquired advanced Russian military technology, including air defense systems (S-400) and fighter jets (Su-35). This integration has bolstered China's defense capabilities and created a symbiotic technological relationship.
- Joint Development: Collaborative development projects are emerging, such as the potential for joint missile development and shared research in defense technologies.



OPERATIONAL SYNERGIES:

- Interoperability: Joint exercises and operational integration are improving the ability of Chinese and Russian forces to conduct coordinated operations, particularly in strategic regions like the Arctic and Pacific.
- Strategic Partnerships: The growing military cooperation is creating a more cohesive strategic partnership, allowing both nations to present a united front on global security issues and influence international policy.

GEOPOLITICAL IMPLICATIONS:

- Global Influence: Enhanced military cooperation is reshaping global power dynamics, particularly in regions where both nations have strategic interests. This cooperation is seen as a counterbalance to U.S. and NATO influence.
- Regional Security: The joint military presence in sensitive regions, such as the Arctic and near U.S. borders, underscores a strategic shift that could impact regional security and defense planning for other nations.



CONCLUSION

The joint air patrol by Russia and China represents a significant development in their military relationship, reflecting enhanced operational capabilities and strategic alignment. The historical context of their military exercises and the potential for deeper military-technical cooperation highlight the evolving nature of their partnership and its implications for global security dynamics.

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